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OLL 84-1592/1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director

THROUGH: Director, Office of Legislative Liaison *cy*

FROM:   
Liaison Division  
Office of Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Information Flows from the Agency to the Congress

REFERENCE: Memo for D/OLL, dated 20 April 1984, Subj: Written Congressional Questions

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1. The referent memorandum dealt with the magnitude of and manner in which the Agency provides information to the Congress resulting from formal, written questions received from the Hill. The purpose of this memorandum is to expand upon the first memo, by addressing other means via which the Agency communicates information to the Congress. In this memorandum, I will not necessarily differentiate between analytical judgments, sources and methods information, highly sensitive operational information, and the like.

2. One means via which the Agency conveys information to the Congress is through narrative discussion with either Members of Congress or their Congressional staff by senior Agency officials, ranging from the Director down to, generally speaking, Agency operating officials at the SIS 4 level. Agency legislative liaison personnel may or may not accompany senior officers in these instances. Where they participate in or are party to the discussions, our liaison officers are required to document such meetings for the record. Where our legislative liaison personnel do not accompany or otherwise participate in such discussions, Agency records are documented only to the extent that the involved senior officers make their meeting a matter of record. We in OLL may or may not receive a copy of such documentation where it is prepared.

3. Another means of conveying Agency information to the Hill is via dissemination of current intelligence publications and intelligence estimative products. These range from Special National Intelligence Estimates to the NID to a myriad of periodic and ad hoc publications from the Directorate of Intelligence. All of the data concerning the dissemination of these Agency publications is a matter of record within the Agency.

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4. The Agency Congressional Budget Justification Book, submitted annually to our authorization committees (HPSCI and SSCI) and to our appropriation committees (SAC and HAC - the Defense Subcommittees of both) of the Congress, is itself a massive conveyance of highly sensitive information about the Agency, its infrastructure, and its activities. Again, the dissemination of these documents to the Congress is a matter of record within the Agency.

5. Annual DCI Worldwide intelligence briefings, DCI National Foreign Intelligence Program (NFIP) briefings, annual CIAP briefings, and the like, all of which result in a written transcript of testimony and extemporaneous comments, questions, and answers are yet another means by which Agency information is conveyed to the Congress. It is worth noting here that, with one exception, the Agency is, by Congressional rule, not allowed to retain a copy of any transcript that results from Agency testimony. The only exception is the SSCI, when either the DCI or the DDCI has testified. It seems that we should be entitled to retain a copy of Congressional transcripts produced as a result of Agency testimony, sworn or otherwise.

6. A further conveyance of Agency information involves working-level briefings for Members of Congress or Congressional staff. These briefings, where no transcript of the proceedings is produced, are most typically given by either Directorate of Operations or Directorate of Intelligence personnel, although personnel from the other two directorates have provided briefings as requested. In these instances, the briefers are accompanied by Agency legislative liaison personnel, who, at the completion of the briefing, document the essential matters of the session for the record. On occasion, and where appropriate, Agency legislative liaison officers themselves provide briefings to either Members or staffers. Where this is done, the record is likewise documented and the responsible Agency component provided a copy of the documentation.

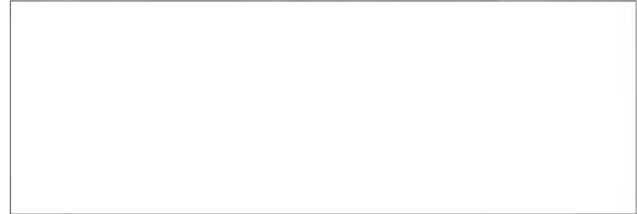
7. Another means by which Agency information is communicated to the Congress involves the Intelligence Community Staff. We in the Agency do not feel that we are always fully informed about these instances. Most often, the IC Staff involvement centers on Community budgetary matters in one fashion or another.

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8. While there may well be other isolated means by which Agency information is communicated, I believe the above to be a reasonably comprehensive summary of the means utilized by the Agency and its employees to communicate officially with the Congress. I remain available to provide whatever additional information on this matter you may require.



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